

**REGION II MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**  
**MINUTES**  
**June 14, 2012**  
**State Office Building –**  
**Third Floor Conference Room**

**--Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair, Jim Rehder, at 1:33 p.m. at the Idaho State Office Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

**Welcome and Introductions:** (Names in bold are board members): **Jim Rehder, Steve Button, Tom Stroschein, Darrell Keim, Ron Beecher, Dr. Arnold Kadrmas, Vicki Malone, Randy Davis, Jennifer Griffis, Deborah Lind, Marsha Wilson, Melissa Anstine,** Brian Pope, Dr.s John and Martha Tanner (Reg VII via teleconference), Shawn McDowell, Scott Douglas, Amber Seipert, Barb Kaufman, Rodney Kanikkeburg, John Doug, Jennifer Shuffield, Joyce Lyons, Angie Shantie, Kathy Workman, Sandra Grove, Teri Rainey, Beth Patzer, Dennis Gray, **Beverly Fowler,** Christine Winter, Debbie Winchester, John Grimes, Duncan Leonhardy, Ken Kraft, Ryan Porter, and Ross Edmunds.

**--Approval of May 2012 Minutes:** Moved by Tom Stroschein and seconded by Arnold Kadrmas to approve the April 2012 Minutes. The motion carried.

**--State Official Visit:** Ross Edmonds began by explaining there is a repetitive cycle to Review Services, make a Recommendation, then start the Review process again without any significant action. He was quite clear, he is unwilling to be complacent I developing a Behavioral Health System that appropriately serves those in need and allows flexibility at the local level.

He described the 3 waves of transformation that he envisions. (1) Medicaid will be turned over to managed care soon--RFP will be posted this month. Medicaid spends approximately \$150 million a year on outpatient benefits and insures approximately 230,000 people. There will also be a decision regarding the (2) Affordable Health Care Act soon which expands the amount of people who will be eligible for Medicaid. Ross Edmunds presented the (3) Health and Welfare's white paper for transformation of Idaho's Behavioral System.

Included in the white paper is that the Department of Health and Welfare retains its role as the State Behavioral Health Authority and is responsible for safety net services including: Behavioral Health System Oversight, Emergency psychiatric services, Care of committed participants, Services for participants that are court ordered, Services for mental health court participants, Treatment services to participants without benefits, Substance use disorder services provided under Federal Block Grant funds and Services to support recovery until the Regional Boards' demonstrate readiness.

Ross also reported on having the RMHB and RAC become a pseudo governmental entity instead of advisory boards to make policy, personnel and fiscal decisions. This would create a Regional Development Board of directors and would allow for the ability to hire their own staff and apply for grants. There is a need for change in statute 39-31. Jim asked Ross to share the draft legislation forming the Regional Development Board—he said he would.

There were 34 people present at the board meeting with 11 Board members present and 2 attending via tele-conference. Each person had an opportunity to ask a question of Ross. There was an enormous amount of information shared. The encouraging outcome is Ross' commitment to work with the Regions and help facilitate a process that meets the expectations of the Regions.

Ryan Porter accompanied Ross and took detailed notes of the issues; he said he would share his notes when they are prepared.

**\*The rest of the meeting was suspended.**

**--Next Meeting: July 12, 2012**

**--Adjourned at: 3:35 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Melissa Anstine**

**--Website: <http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/>, and our Regional board link**

**<http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Medical/MentalHealth/RegionalMentalHealthBoards/Region2MentalHealthBoard/tabid/686/Default.aspx>**